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**RAWMARSH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR

1954

RAWMARSH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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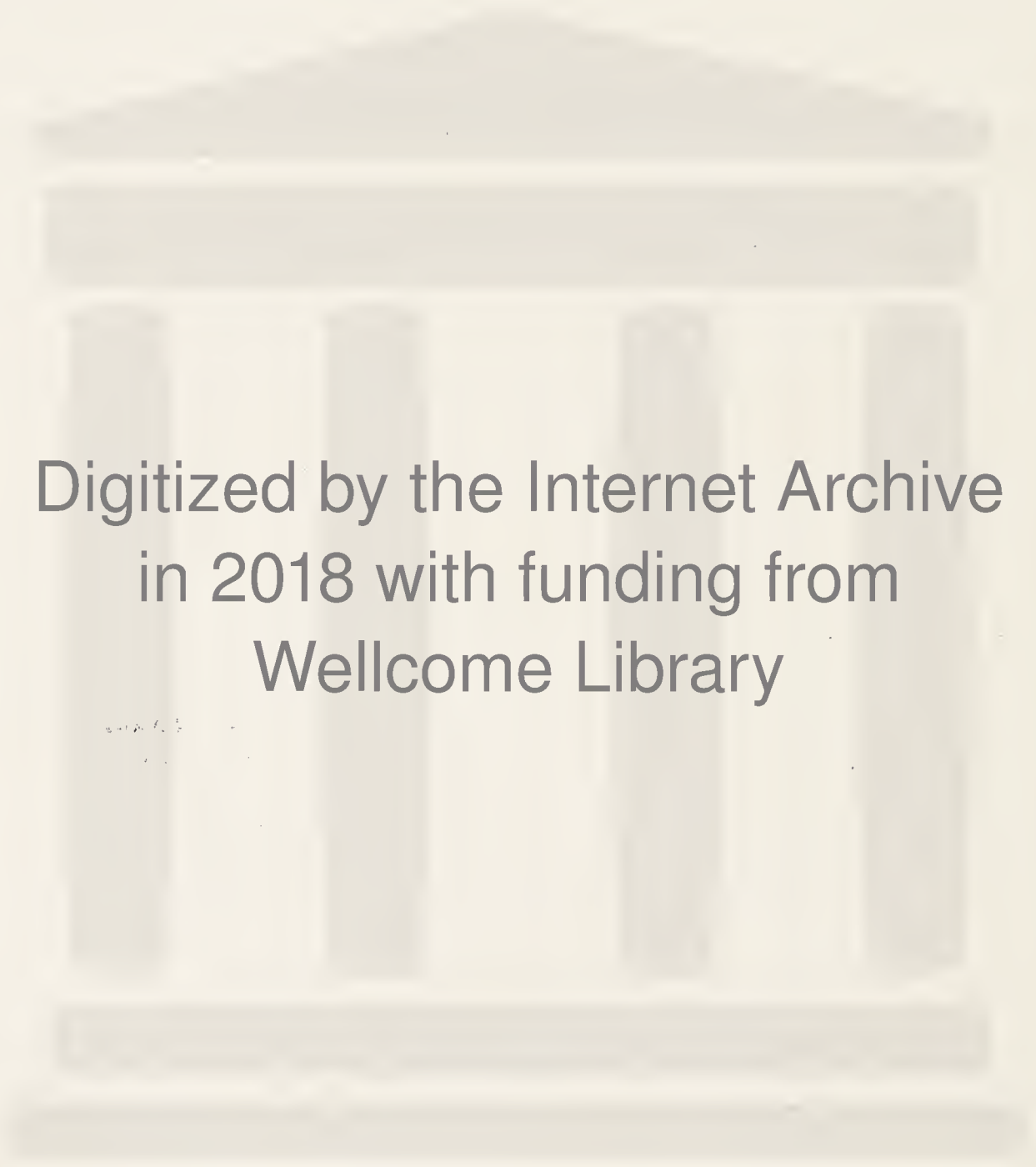
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Medical Officer of Health :

D. J. CUSITER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M., and H.

Sanitary Inspector :

G. RAWLINSON, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.



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RAWMARSH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1954

Public Health Department,
Dunford House,
Doncaster Road,
Wath upon Dearne.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Rawmarsh Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1954.

There was a most extensive outbreak of influenza during November and December and school attendance was severely affected in some instances, being as low as 50% instead of the usual 85–90% for that time of the year. The outbreak though extensive was not very severe and was due to type A virus.

For the fourth consecutive year there was no maternal death in the urban District.

The housing situation continues to improve : 156 houses being built for the council, 78 by the Coal Industry Housing Association and 7 by private enterprise.

Good housing and full employment, which existed during the year make healthy citizens.

During the course of the year eleven huts were demolished on the Red Ash Hill Estate. This site has caused the Health Committee much anxiety and it is to be hoped that the remainder of the huts can be cleared in the near future.

The district is still seriously troubled by atmospheric pollution but it is worthy of note that there was almost a 50% reduction in the deposit in the Parkgate Area although the deposit remaining is still very high. Domestic pollution from burning raw coal in open fireplaces is a part of general atmospheric pollution and must be controlled at the same time as attempts are made to control the pollution from industry.

In this work I have been greatly assisted by Mr. Rawlinson the Sanitary Inspector and by the co-operation of the Council and Officials.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

D. J. CUSITER,
Medical Officer of Health.

Section A.
NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF
RAWMARSH URBAN DISTRICT.

Area (in acres)	2,607
Population (Census 1951)	18,789
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population, mid 1954	19,030
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931)	4,523
Number of Inhabited Houses (31st December, 1954) ..	5,884
Rateable Value	£89,306
Nett Product of a Penny Rate	£328
Height above Sea Level	64-380 ft.

There was full employment in the course of the year and in fact certain industries were at times suffering from shortage of labour.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1954.

	1954	1953	Eng. & Wales 1954
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population :			
Crude	17.71	17.19	15.2
Adjusted	17.53	18.05	*
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population ..	0.58	0.47	*
Death rate per 1,000 population :			
Crude	10.61	9.81	11.3
Adjusted	12.41	11.18	*
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	32.64	21.60	25.5
Neo-Natal Death rate per 1,000 live births	26.71	15.46	17.7
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 births	Nil	Nil	0.69

* Figures not available.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1954 IN DETAIL.

	Males	Females	Total
Live Births : Legitimate	173	154	327
Illegitimate	5	5	10
Total Live Births			337
Stillbirths : Legitimate	4	5	9
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Deaths of Infants under one year :			
Legitimate	7	4	11
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Deaths : All Ages	106	96	202
Stillbirths :			
Rate per 1,000 births		31.61	
Comparability Factors :			
Births		0.99	
Deaths		1.17	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 births
Puerperal and Post-abortive sepsis ..	Nil	—
Other Maternal Causes	Nil	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year :

All Infants per 1,000 live births	32.64
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	33.64
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ..	Nil
Neo-Natal Death Rate	26.71

Causes of Death in 1954.

	Males	Females
1. Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	2	1
2. Tuberculosis (Other)	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	—	1
10. Cancer of Stomach	3	3
11. Cancer of Lungs or Bronchus	3	—
12. Cancer of Breast	—	4
13. Cancer of Uterus	—	4
14. Other Cancer or Lymphatic Cancer ..	7	6
15. Leukaemia or Aleukaemia	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	1
17. Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	9	13
18. Coronary disease or Angina	14	7
19. Hypertension with Heart disease ..	1	6
20. Other Heart disease	10	22
21. Other Circulatory disease	9	6
22. Influenza	1	—
23. Pneumonia	2	1
24. Bronchitis	15	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	1	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ..	—	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis or Diarrhoea ..	—	—
28. Nephritis or Nephrosis	1	1
29. Enlarged Prostate	3	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth or abortion ..	—	—
31. Congenital malformation	1	2
32. Other defined or ill-defined diseases ..	13	10
33. Motor vehicle accidents	—	—
34. All other accidents	8	3
35. Suicide	3	1
36. Homicide or operations of war	—	—
Totals	106	96

There were three deaths from Tuberculosis but the death rate from this cause remains lower than the national rate. There was an increase in the number of infants who did not survive their first year of life—11 deaths being recorded in this category as against 7, 10, 12 in 1953, 52 and 51 respectively. Of the 10 illegitimate births registered all survived.

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age :

	<i>Causes</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Died at</i>
1.	Spina Bifida and Meningocele	2 weeks	Home
2.	Intra Cranial Haemorrhage, Tentorial Tear and Prematurity	10 hours	Hospital
3.	Anencephaly	22 hours	Hospital
4.	Paraplegia, Meningitis and Spina Bifida ..	2 months	Home
5.	Paroxysmal tachycardia and pneumonia ..	5 months	Hospital
6.	Asphyxia and Atelectasis	2 hours	Hospital
7.	Asphyxia and Atelectasis	3 days	Hospital
8.	Intra Ventricular Haemorrhage, Asphyxia, Atelectasis and Prematurity ..	1 hour	Hospital
9.	Atelectasis and Prematurity	20 hours	Hospital
10.	Atelectasis	6 hours	Hospital
11.	Cerebral Haemorrhage and Disproportion	3 hours	Hospital

Of the eleven Infant Deaths only one was due to infection the remaining 10 were due either to accident of birth 1, prematurity 3, Atelectasis 3 and congenital defects 3. It is important to note that all save two died within 24 hours. In such cases it is very often the method of death that is described and not necessarily the cause of death. The causes of prematurity are only sometimes known and deaths from this cause are not easily preventable.

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospital Services.

Hospital Services are unchanged from previous reports. Wath Wood Tuberculosis Sanatorium is now well established and patients from the district are from time to time admitted for treatment.

Ambulance Service.

This is provided by the County Ambulance Service operating from the depot at Dunford House. The Depot Superintendent is Mr. F. Hyde. Some of the vehicles are equipped with wireless. The alterations at the depot are completed and include heated garages—stores—workshops for maintenance—an inspection pit and central heating plant. There is an office block and a kitchen equipped with gas cooker—a changing room with showers and a rest room for those on stand-by duty. These considerable alterations were carried out by modification of existing out buildings at Dunford House and have transformed the depot. All drivers and attendants receive instruction in First Aid and some in Home Nursing also.

Infectious Diseases by Wards.

Ward	Scarlet Fever	Pneu- monia	Dysen- tery	Whoop- ing Cough	Measles	Mening- occocal Infec- tion	Erysip- elas	Food Poison- ing	Totals
Ryecroft ..	2	1	2	2	34	—	—	1	42
Rosehill ..	6	1	1	1	19	—	1	1	30
South ..	2	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	7
Central ..	2	2	—	1	16	1	—	1	23
West ..	1	—	—	1	4	—	1	—	7
East ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Totals ..	13	5	4	6	77	1	2	3	111

Poliomyelitis.

There were no cases notified in 1954.

Measles.

Cases were notified in March, April and May. The outbreak was mild in nature and complications were rare. Measles can still be a dangerous disease in young children and medical advice should always be sought by the parents.

Scarlet Fever.

Notifications were received in the first four months of the year. Scarlet fever is a very mild disease compared to what was the case 20-30 years ago. With modern treatment complications are rare. In this disease the public do not generally know that Scarlet Fever may arise from any person who is infected with the germ which produces many other types of illness apart from Scarlet Fever. For example a person may have a sore throat with no rash whilst a contact of this same case will develop Scarlet Fever. In other words all streptococcal infection is infectious but only Scarlet Fever is notifiable.

Whooping Cough.

There were only six notifications. This is a most dangerous disease in extreme infancy and protective immunisation should be offered to an infant at the third month as the great majority of deaths from Whooping Cough occur in the first year of life.

Tuberculosis.

Number on Register at 31st December, 1954.

				Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary ..	..	..	..	37	30	67
Non-Pulmonary ..	..	..	..	10	6	16
Totals ..	..	..	..	47	36	83

Number removed from Register during 1954.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Deaths	2	1	—	—	3
Others (cured, re-diagnosed, transfers out of area, etc.)	7	2	2	3	14
	9	3	2	3	17

Number added to Register during 1954.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
New notifications ..	2	5	—	1	8
Others (cases restored to register, transfers, etc.)	3	4	—	—	7
Totals ..	5	9	—	1	15

New Notifications—Pulmonary.

Age Groups				Males	Females
0— 5 years .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
5—15 „ .. .. .	..	..	..	—	1
15—25 „ .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
25—35 „ .. .. .	..	..	..	—	2
35—45 „ .. .. .	..	..	..	1	—
Over 45 „ .. .. .	..	..	..	1	2
Totals .. .. .	..	..	..	2	5

No. of Contacts given B.C.G. Vaccine = 3.

	1954	1953	1954
	Rawmarsh	Rawmarsh	Eng. and Wales
Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.16	Nil	0.18

Tuberculosis.

There were seven fresh notifications of Tuberculosis in 1954.

Everything is done in this disease to assist the patient to overcome the infection and to avoid infecting others. Children are peculiarly susceptible to infection and for this reason we have commenced skin testing all school entrants by means of a jelly test. In positive cases further investigations may be carried out depending on the history of the case. A positive skin reaction may only mean that the child has come in contact with the tuberculosis germ and that it has overcome the infection. Conversely it may mean that the child has not overcome the infection and requires medical treatment.

Health Visitors visit the homes of all cases on the Tuberculosis register from time to time and reports are forwarded to the Medical

Officer of Health. In cases where housing is not satisfactory the Council have arranged suitable accommodation when so requested. In conjunction with this there is a comprehensive after-care service controlled by the Divisional Medical Officer and dealing with material things such as free milk, beds, bedding and bed linen for segregation. Home helps who in this instance must be volunteers may be required by affected households.

Section 47 National Assistance Act, 1948.

This provides for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention—no action was taken under this section of the Act in 1954.

Sewage Works.

Extensions to existing sewers were necessary in connection with the new housing estates.

Water Supply.

The water supplied from the Sheffield Water Authority is of the highest purity. Samples are regularly taken throughout the district, and tested at the Public Health Laboratory, Sheffield, and all were satisfactory.

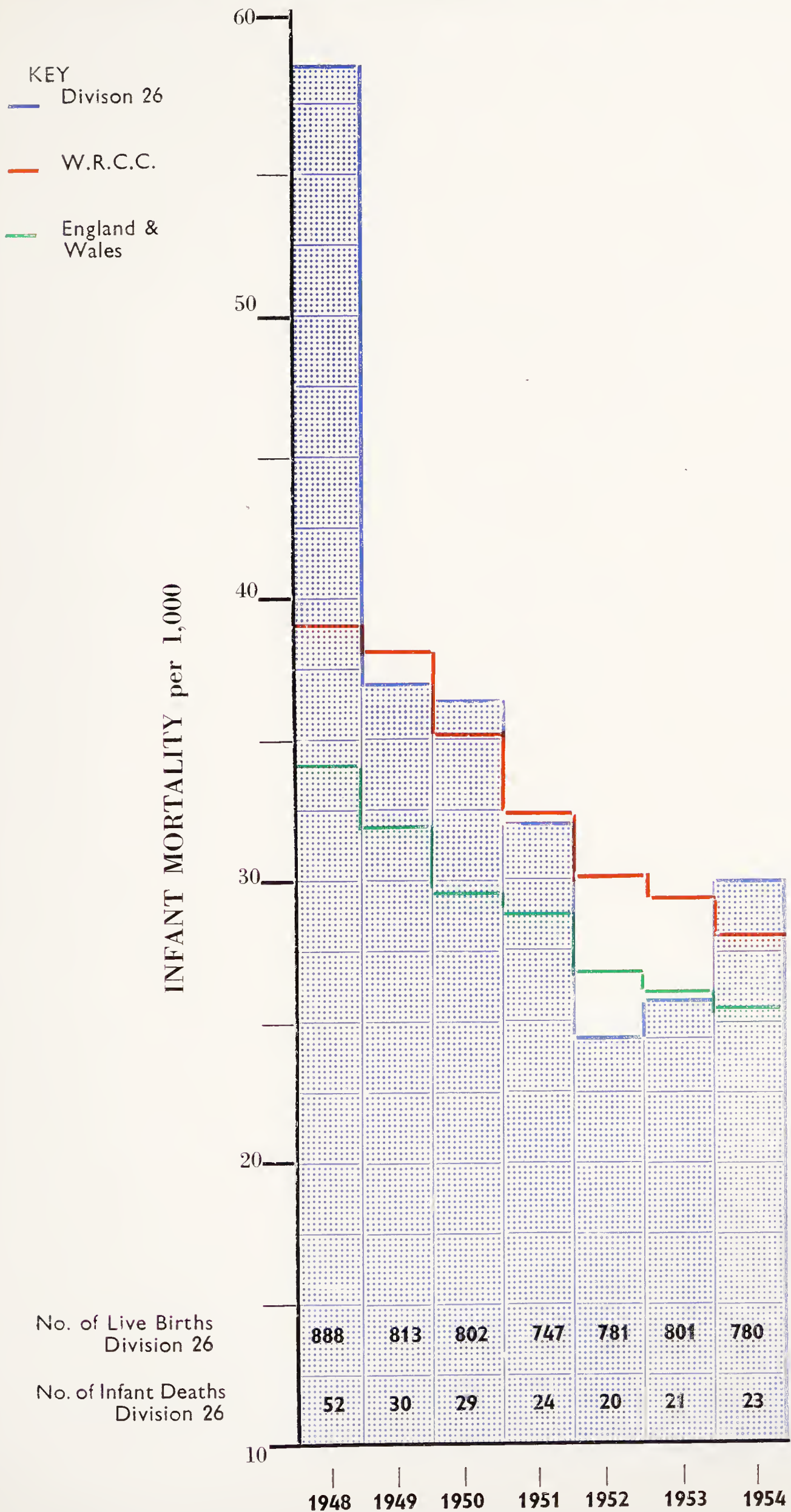
Smoke Abatement.

The district suffers from severe atmospheric pollution. In the lower part of the district, Parkgate, this is due to a combination of industrial causes ; chemical works, Colliery Plant and Steel Works and Railway Sidings. In the residential part of the district the pollution is almost entirely due to burning raw coal in open fireplaces. Both domestic pollution and industrial pollution must be controlled and eventually eliminated if the high incidence of chest complaints such as bronchitis in industrial areas is to be reduced. Smoke emission is usually preventable—and is always wasteful.

Housing.

Material progress was maintained in rehousing during 1954. One hundred and fifty-six permanent houses were constructed for the Council, seventy-eight for the Coal Industry Housing Association and seven for private sale. This rate of building has transformed the Urban District and has given many families their first homes that they have not had to share with others. Good Homes are the basis of sound family life. Sound health, both mental and physical is certainly encouraged by good housing.

Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000, 1948 to 1954



PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES—DIVISION 26.

(Rawmarsh, Swinton and Wath Urban Districts).

Summary of Vital Statistics for 1953 and 1954 for Division 26.

	1954	1953
Area of Division	7,990	acres
Estimated Population	45,250	
Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated population) ..	17.24	17.80
Death Rates (per 1,000 estimated population) :		
All Causes	10.65	10.18
Cancer	1.66	1.76
Heart and Circulatory	4.42	3.69
Infective and parasitic diseases, excluding T.B.	0.11	0.07
Respiratory Diseases	0.97	1.07
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0.11	0.04
Other Tuberculosis	Nil	0.07
All Tuberculosis	0.11	0.11
Maternal Mortality	Nil	Nil
Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 live births) ..	29.45	26.22

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics for Urban and Rural Districts in the West Riding and England and Wales for 1954.

	Live Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infective and Parasitic Dis's. excluding T.B. Death Rate	Respiratory Diseases Death Rate	Heart and Circulatory Diseases	Cancer	Tuberculosis Death Rate All Forms	Infant Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality
Division 26 ..	17.24	10.65	0.11	0.97	4.42	1.66	0.11	29.45	Nil
U.D.'s in West Riding	14.7	12.7	0.07	1.27	4.88	2.12	0.19	28.3	0.80
R.D.'s in West Riding	16.3	9.9	0.08	1.08	3.64	1.70	0.14	27.2	1.10
Administrative County ..	15.1	11.9	0.08	1.22	4.54	2.01	0.18	28.0	0.89
England and Wales ..	15.2	11.3	*	*	*	2.04	0.18	25.5	0.69

* Figures not available.

All figures per 1,000 population except last two columns.

There was no maternal death in the year under review. The infant mortality rate shows an increase on the previous year and is again slightly higher than the National Rate or the County Rate due to the fact that we lost two more infants from a smaller total of births but the rate remains below 30 per 1000 which is satisfactory for an industrial area. The Tuberculosis death rate and that for other chest diseases remain at a remarkably low level for an industrial area.

Home Nursing Service in Division 26.

The staff consists of 7 full time nurses and three part time.

	<i>No. of Cases Assisted</i>						<i>Visits</i>
1954	1211	..	..	..	30008
1953	1034	..	..	..	25348
1952	845	..	..	..	22526

Our Home Nurses are carrying out twenty more visits every day than in 1952. Staffing presents problems but the Home Nurses have worked exceedingly well throughout the year and in Rawmarsh in particular we have managed to get a Home Nurse resident on one of the new estates, the District Council having allocated a house to the Home Nurse—the nearer the home nurse lives to her district the more visits she can pay in the same time. The service is free and the nurses are requested to visit by the Family Doctor who instructs the nurse in the care of each individual patient.

General supervision of the service is the responsibility of the Divisional Medical Officer. Equipment for the nursing of patients is maintained at Dunford House and specialised items can be obtained from the County pool. The Service is expanding yearly.

Infant Welfare and Health Visiting Service.

Centre	Doctor in Charge	No. of individual children who attended during the year	Total No. of attendances made by children in previous column during the year	
			Under 1 yr. of age	Over 1 yr. of age
Wath ..	Dr. M. Lister	332	1510	334
West Melton ..	Dr. M. Lister	200	1202	681
Swinton ..	Dr. I. Campbell	363	2942	564
Kilnhurst ..	Dr. J. Core	117	603	334
Rawmarsh ..	Dr. J. Core	396	1390	410
Parkgate ..	Dr. M. R. Menzies	123	456	132
Totals ..		1521	8103	2455

No. of Home Visits made by Health Visitors within the Division during the Year :

	First Visits				Total Visits
Expectant Mothers	120	219
Children under 1 year	706	5395
Children between 1 and 5	*	8470
Other cases	*	5164
Totals	826	19,248

* Figures not available.

The Health Visiting service was fully staffed throughout the year. The Health Visitors are responsible for the home visiting of children after the 14th day, for staffing the school clinics and infant welfare centres and for general supervision of the Ante-Natal Clinics. They visit the aged who are not receiving care from the Home Nurses and they are responsible for the supervision of the Home Helps. They have many other duties such as preparing reports for hospital almoners and background reports for Consultants in the Hospital Service ; their function is preventive and educative. In order to eliminate complaints from any Family Doctor that he cannot contact a Health Visitor the Health Committee of the County Council had telephones installed in their homes. When these were installed the Family Doctors were notified of the telephone numbers. It is essential that both Health Visitors or Family Doctors should be able to discuss any problem directly. They work for the whole family but in particular concentrate on the two most vulnerable groups, the young and the aged. They have been extra busy in the past year.

Maternity Services.

BIRTHS.

			Domiciliary	Institutional	Proportion of Domiciliary to Institutional
Wath .. ..	..	..	141	101	7: 5
Swinton ..	..	..	140	70	2: 1
Rawmarsh ..	..	..	181	167	9: 8

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Clinic	Doctor in Charge	No. of women who attended	No. of women who attended for blood exam. only	Total No. of attendances made by women
Wath	Dr. D. Chapman	88	36	583
Swinton ..	Dr. H. H. Smith	163	—	709
Rawmarsh ..	Dr. M. Scott	256	—	1009
Totals ..		507	36	2301

POST NATAL CLINICS.

(Held jointly with Ante-Natal Clinics).

Clinic	Doctor in Charge	Number of women who attended	Total No. of attendances made by women
Wath	Dr. D. Chapman	34	35
Swinton ..	Dr. H. H. Smith	39	46
Rawmarsh ..	Dr. M. Scott	35	56
Totals ..		108	137

RELAXATION CLASSES.

Clinic	Officer in Charge	Number of women who attended	Total No. of attendances made by women
Swinton ..	Midwife F. Launders	33	200
* Wath ..	Midwife M. Barber	53	391

* Commenced 12/5/54.

For the third consecutive year there was no Maternal death in the division. Ante-Natal clinics are held weekly in each of the Urban Districts, Wath, Swinton and Rawmarsh. In cases where mothers do not attend an Ante-Natal Clinic and have been booked for home delivery it is the duty of the Midwife to visit and examine the case at home. The difficult staffing position in Rawmarsh noted in 1953 was relieved by the appointment of Nurse F. M. Williams and Nurse M. Foster. All districts are now fully staffed and in all districts most midwives live in close proximity to their district. The staff at the end of the year consisted of 9 midwives and one relief midwife.

Relaxation Classes are held in Wath and Swinton for mothers expecting their first baby. The midwives instruct the mother in what is the course of normal childbirth and teach them how to relax.

All midwives are trained in the method of using gas and air analgesia and pethidine.

PREMATURE BIRTHS.

District	Born Alive			Still-born			No. Rem. to Hosp. after Birth	No. who survived 28 days		
	At Home	In Hosp.	Total	At Home	In Hosp.	Total		At Home	In Hosp.	Total
Wath ..	12	14	26	—	3	3	1	11	12	23
Swinton ..	8	4	12	—	1	1	2	6	3	9
Rawmarsh..	6	20	26	—	2	2	1	6	15	21
Totals ..	26	38	64	—	6	6	4	23	30	53

There were no less than 64 babies born in this category—almost twice as many as in 1953. Of this total 11 did not survive to the 28th day. In other words almost 50 per cent of the total infant mortality of the division was due to prematurity with its associated defects. There are many causes of this condition and possibly are equally large number of cases where there is no known cause. Now that the infective diseases of infancy have been overcome it remains for the Health Services to concentrate on the prevention of prematurity where this is possible. Special arrangements exist for the care of such babies both at home and in hospital.

Care of the Unmarried Mother and her Child.

There were 24 illegitimate births in the division. Twenty three of these came to our notice. In 18 cases the mother kept the baby—this is

the best solution if it is possible to do so. In 3 cases the parents married—in one case the infant was adopted, and one infant died. Special care is devoted to this section of the community as they tend to avoid ante-natal supervision and they require sympathetic assistance. Miss Spooner, a Voluntary Welfare Worker of the Church of England, assists these cases irrespective of religion and advice and accommodation care is arranged for the confinement by the Health Committee of the County Council.

Welfare Foods.

The West Riding County Council took over the distribution of these foods from the Ministry of Food on the 28th June, 1954. The transfer was effected smoothly and without any inconvenience to the public. The foods concerned are National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil, and Vitamin A and D Tablets. These are now sold at Dunford House and the Infant Welfare Centres in the division by clerical staff, not by the nurses, who in my opinion should be employed in advising mothers.

Domestic Help Service.

Establishment of Domestic Helps 17-24 Full time
 No. of Domestic Helps employed 52 Part time
 Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December, 1954 :

						No. of Cases	Hours		
1.	Maternity (including expectant mothers)					..	76	7782	
2.	Tuberculosis .. .. .					..	6	462	
3.	Chronic Sick (including aged and infirm)					..	220	39134	
4.	Others .. .. .					..	26	1412	
							<hr/>	<hr/>	
					Totals	.. ..	..	328	48790
							<hr/>	<hr/>	
							1952	1953	1954
Average No. of staff (part-time)					..	34	47	52	
Total Hours					.. .. .	31652	39399	48790	

This service continues to expand. The Service is not a free one and each case is assessed by the Divisional Welfare Officer. The number of hours allocated to any case is decided by the Divisional Medical Officer who is aware that some cases think they could do with more assistance but this extra must come off someone else's quota and is not always possible without causing hardship. The Service is a form of assistance, only in maternity cases and other exceptional cases is it possible to provide a full-time Home Help. Voluntary sources of help should be encouraged and in my opinion it is a policy of defeatism to ignore the responsibility of relatives who are expected to assist.

In the majority of cases and particularly in dealing with Old Age Pensioners no charge is made. The Home Helps have worked very well and in many cases willingly carry out duties in difficult and trying circumstances. A minority of old people are not easy to deal with.

The work of the Home Helps is supervised by the Health Visitors. It is one of the most important social services and its use is bound to extend in the future.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Mentally Defective Persons.

	Division No. 26
1. (a) Total No.	121
(b) No. ascertained during 1954	11
2. (a) No. under Guardianship	3
(b) No. under Statutory Supervision	102
(c) No. under Voluntary Supervision or Observation	15
(d) No. on licence from Institutions	1
3. (a) No. awaiting Institution admission	8
(b) No. attending Group Training Classes	20
(c) No. receiving Home Training	8
(d) No. in Remunerative Employment	40

Steady progress has been made in improving the lot of those who by accident of birth or subsequent disease of mental ill health, have had their mental powers dulled in comparison with others. A Social Worker, Miss Ball, visits the homes of those on licence from mental hospitals and also visits on request those who have been discharged and who may require advice and help and assists in placing them in employment.

Classes for the training of Mental Defectives are held at Dunford House, Rock House and Barbers Ave. The instructors are Mrs. L. Feasey, who has just returned from a years training at Manchester. She is assisted by Mrs. O. Leary. With instruction there is a remarkable change in the outlook of the children and adults. They are taught simple crafts and are given social training. These now attending will form the nucleus for the Occupation Centre which will eventually be built at Wath-upon-Dearne. All our Mental Health Workers are performing great work of great value to the community.

Some of our most difficult cases have been admitted to institution but there are still a few most urgent cases on the waiting list. The difficulty in gaining admission is due to two causes, (1) an acute shortage of accommodation, (2) a shortage of trained mental health nurses.

AFTER-CARE ON DISCHARGE FROM HOSPITAL.

	No. of Cases
Assisted by Midwife (discharged before the 14th day) ..	219
Assisted by Home Nurse	16
Assisted by Health Visitor	198
Background Reports provided for hospital staffs ..	242
Number of Patients referred to Medical Officer on discharge	433

The Divisional Medical Officer is notified of all admissions and discharges from hospital by arrangement with the Regional Board. In some cases the hospital doctors request information concerning the patients home conditions.

On discharge Home Nurses, Midwives or Health Visitors may visit the home and supply nursing care and advice. The mental health workers supply the same need for the mentally sick on discharge from hospital. The Health Visitor also visits those discharged from Sanatoria.

Equipment and even hospital beds with lifting poles, etc. can be supplied on loan, free of charge.

CHILDREN LIKELY TO BE NEGLECTED OR ILL-TREATED IN THEIR OWN HOMES.

The Divisional Medical Officer is the co-ordinating officer for this service. Such cases are kept under review and close contact is maintained with all those who may assist in prevention. In Wath it was necessary to prosecute in two instances for long standing neglect due to failure of the husband to go to work and provide for his family. Both cases were proved and sentences were awarded by the magistrate—prosecutions are fortunately very rare but children must be protected from the effects of idleness in their parents who have been given every chance before prosecution to alter their way of life.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

All the schools in the division are visited and sometime in the course of the year the children are immunised in school with parental consent. The immunisation rate for the age group 5 to 15 is excellent. More children under five should be immunised however, and if Diphtheria returns it will attack and kill the unprotected under 5's whose foolish parents have decided to defer immunisation until the child attends school.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION.

Number of Persons Vaccinated or Re-vaccinated during 1954.

Age at 31.12.54, i.e., born in years	Under 1 1954	1—4 1950/53	5—14 1940/49	15 or over before 1940	Total
No. vaccinated :					
Wath	43	14	2	1	60
Swinton ..	3	2	—	4	9
Rawmarsh ..	42	5	2	3	52
No. re-vaccinated :					
Wath	—	—	—	5	5
Swinton ..	—	—	—	2	2
Rawmarsh ..	—	—	—	4	4

Protection by vaccination is the only safeguard against this virus disease which can carry a case mortality of 30 per cent. There has been an increase in the number of vaccinations performed in Wath and Rawmarsh. This increase is due to vaccination performed at Infant Welfare Centres in the two districts. Generally South Yorkshire has a very low vaccination rate, one of the lowest in the Country. It is often too late to

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Urban District	No. of Children Immunised in 1954			No. of Children given booster doses during 1954	No. of Children Immunised at any time up to 31/12/54			Estimated Mid-Year Population			Percentage	
	Under 5 Yrs.	5—14 Yrs.	Total		Under 5 Yrs.	5—14 Yrs.	Total	Under 5 Yrs.	5—14 Yrs.	Total	Under 5 Yrs.	5—14 Yrs.
Wath	151	101	252	393	606	1863	2469	1192	2246	3438	50.8	82.9
Swinton	158	102	260	379	566	1832	2398	966	1866	2832	58.6	98.2
Rawmarsh	195	85	280	269	552	2709	3261	1590	3048	4638	34.7	88.9

be vaccinated when the disease has actually broken out in the midst of a community and in any case bodily disturbance and complications from vaccination are at their minimum in infancy when all primary vaccination should be completed.

WHOOPING COUGH.

This is offered at the County Clinics to children under 4 years of age. It will prevent the severe manifestation of the disease and is 75-80 per cent. effective in preventing the disease altogether. Protection should be commenced early at 3/12 of age as the mortality and severe complications of this disease are highest in extreme infancy. It is too late to commence immunisation when the child is whooping.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

There are approximately 8,600 children on the school register in the division. All are medically examined on school entry on transfer to Secondary School and before leaving. If any defects are found they may be examined at regular intervals until health is restored. Treatment is carried out by referring the cases to Family Doctors or hospitals. The Service is run in close co-operation with the Family Doctors and Paediatrician, Dr. C. Harvey.

At the end of the year we commenced checking all school entrants for exposure to Tuberculosis by means of a jelly test—the positive reactors were referred to the chest Clinics for further examination. The Mass Radiography Service visited Wath and all Secondary Modern School children aged 13 years and over were offered X-ray. One case of active adult type (symptomless) tuberculosis was diagnosed after a further period of observation in 1955. The case was resident out of the area of the Health Division.

Dr. M. R. Menzies apart from her duties of routine school medical inspection spends a great deal of time on the ascertainment of the various grades of Handicapped children from the Educational Subnormal to Physically Handicapped. This work requires great skill and patience and is one of the means of deciding the best school for the individual handicapped child. In this work we are assisted by Dr. Harvey and all the facilities of the Children's Hospital and Specialist hospitals in Sheffield.

Clinics Held by the School Health Service.

Ultra Violet Light	Wath and Rawmarsh.
Ophthalmic Clinics	Wath and Rawmarsh.
Child Guidance Clinic	Rawmarsh.
Paediatric Clinic	Rawmarsh.
Orthopaedic Clinic	Rawmarsh.
E.N.T. Clinic	Montagu Hospital.
Speech Therapy	Swinton.

Inspections of School Children 1954.

Entrants	744
Last year in Primary School	518
School Leavers	628
Total	1890
Number of Special Inspections	2509
Number of Re-inspections	881
Total	3390
Grand Total of Inspections carried out	5280

Cleanliness of School Children and Head Infestation.

	<i>Total Children Infested</i>	<i>School Population</i>	<i>Percentage Infested</i>
Rawmarsh and Parkgate	404	3349	12.1
Swinton and Kilnhurst	62	1529	4.1
Wath and West Melton	102	2725	3.7

Comparative Figures.

			<i>W.R.C.C.</i>	<i>Eng. and Wales</i>
	1953	1954	1954	
Total No. infested ..	488	568	—	—
Total Children ..	7483	7603	—	—
Total percentage ..	6.5	7.5	5.3	

Detailed Breakdown of Figures.

District	GIRLS			BOYS		
	No. Infested	Popula- tion	Percent- age	No. Infested	Popula- tion	Percent- age
Rawmarsh	299	1590	18.8	105	1759	5.9
Swinton	50	765	6.5	12	764	1.6
Wath	77	1325	5.8	25	1400	1.8
Division	426	3680	11.6	142	3923	3.6

The School population is an average population for the year and excludes the Grammar School. There was a small improvement in cleanliness in Wath and Swinton and no improvement in Rawmarsh, where the figures for infestation given are three times as high as in the other two Districts.

Care of Handicapped Children.

Day Residential School for E.S.N. Pupils	2
Residential School for E.S.N. Pupils	4
Hostel for Maladjusted Boys	1
Residential School for Deaf or Partially Deaf Pupils	8
Residential School for Deaf E.S.N. Pupils	1
Residential School for Partially-sighted Pupils	3
Residential School for Blind Pupils	—
Residential School for Delicate Pupils	1
Residential School for Spastic Pupils	1
Orthopaedic Hospital School	2
	<hr/>
	23
	<hr/>
No. of children receiving Home Education	3
Total No. of children receiving education other than at an ordinary school	26

The number of children satisfactorily placed in special schools, catering for their disability has increased with the increased accommodation now available in the County Area.

Details of Medical Examinations Carried Out for Various Authorities.

College Entrants examined	34
Teachers examined	5
Superannuation Examinations for (County)	34
Superannuation Examinations for (Local Councils)	2

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

Details of Survey carried out at Dunford House, Wath-upon-Dearne:

Education Staffs.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Teachers	68	147	215
Caretakers, cleaners, canteen, etc.	9	152	161
			<hr/>
			376

Nurses, Health Visitors, etc. ..	—	25	25
---	---	----	----

School Children of 13 Plus.

Wath Grammar School ..	232	240	472
Park Road Sec. Mod. ..	67	66	133
Brampton Sec. Mod.	140	106	246
St. Joseph's R.C. School ..	7	4	11
			<hr/>
			862

RAWMARSH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1954.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Rawmarsh Urban District Council.*

August, 1955.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my fourth annual report covering the work of the sanitary inspectorate in 1954.

Appropriate comments have been made in the specific sections of the report but several matters call for brief mention.

The year has been a busy one with new legislation bringing further duties in connection with improvement grants, certificates of disrepair, slum clearance, and the resumption of Meat inspection in July.

It is again pleasing to report that the good progress in housing was continued in 1954 and the list of applicants has again been appreciably reduced. Comparatively few cases of overcrowding remain and eleven huts at Red Ash Hill Camp were pulled down.

Some preliminary work was done in connection with slum clearance to enable the Council to consider its future policy. With the improving housing situation it is hoped that houses will soon be made available for this purpose.

A record number of 1062 complaints was received mostly concerned with disrepair of houses—this is concrete proof of the progressive deterioration of the older property in the district.

Routine sampling of milk, ice-cream, mains water and swimming-bath water continued with good results. Sampling of ice-lollies was increased and the results were satisfactory.

Recurring labour difficulties aggravated by bad weather and sickness of employees caused delays in refuse collection in the early and latter part of the year. The failure of negotiations to secure a new tipping site by the year end is cause for concern.

I wish to express my appreciation of the support and consideration of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and also to thank the Clerk of the Council and Medical Officer of Health for their advice and assistance. Your additional sanitary inspector and staff have worked well in the year and merit my thanks, and last but not least, I wish to record that the efforts of the workmen have not been overlooked.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. RAWLINSON,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

General.

Number of Sanitary Inspections, Visits, etc.	1004
Inspections re alleged nuisances	885
Number of nuisances in hand at the end of 1953	93
Number of nuisances found in 1954	681
Total number of nuisances needing abatement	774
Number of nuisances abated	723
Number of nuisances outstanding at end of 1954	51
Number of Informal Notices served	681
Number of Informal Notices Complied with	723
Number of Statutory Notices served	10
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	8
Number of summonses or other legal proceedings	1

Complaints and Alleged Nuisances.

During the year 1062 complaints were received and all were investigated necessitating 2,516 inspections and visits. This is an increase of 357 complaints over 1953 and accounts for the increase of 788 visits over the previous year. Most of the complaints concerned disrepair, drainage faults, insufficient water supply etc. in privately-owned dwelling houses. Dilapidation of property increases progressively with age and some landlords neglect disrepair until the Department is called in to intervene. The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, which came into force towards the end of the year had no apparent effect on improving the state of repair of houses. Slum clearance was brought a stage nearer and the Council considered a schedule of houses considered to be unfit and not capable of repair at reasonable expense. Court proceedings were taken against an owner for failing to comply with a Nuisance Abatement Notice and the Magistrates made a Nuisance Order.

Works Executed.

	No. of Houses
Roofs repaired and made watertight	194
Rainwater spouting repaired and made watertight	178
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	27
House walls rebuilt, repaired, repointed	13
Windows replaced, repaired or re-corded	42
Doors replaced or made weatherproof	26
Food stores improved	5
Ceilings repaired or reconstructed	52
Walls replastered and/or water-proofed	46
Floors repaired or reformed	42
Staircases repaired	2
Kitchen ranges repaired or replaced	54
Fireplaces repaired or replaced	9
Hearths reformed	4
Flues repaired or obstructions cleared	16
Set-pot wash boilers repaired	4
Wash-houses rebuilt	1

Steps re-formed and made secure	4
Yard paving repaired or reformed	64
Coal-stores repaired or rebuilt	7
Yard walls repaired/rebuilt	3
Water pipes repaired	48
Water taps replaced/repared	1
Sufficient water supply restored	60
Insanitary sinks replaced	17
Sink waste pipes repaired/replaced	21
Gullies replaced	2
Choked drains and gullies cleansed	88
Cellar drainage provided/improved	2
Flooded cellars pumped out/cleansed	1
Cellar coal-chutes repaired	3
New drains laid	16
Drains re-laid and made watertight	22
Disused drains removed/sealed	3
Additional gullies provided	3
Additional Inspection Chambers provided	17
Inspection Chambers repaired	3
Inspection Chamber covers renewed	6
Vent/soil pipes repaired/replaced	3
Additional W.C.s provided	20
W.C. structures repaired/rebuilt	28
W.C. pedestal fittings replaced	16
Obsolete W.C. fittings replaced by pedestals	2
Water closets cleansed	1
W.C.s abolished	1
W.C. connections and fitting repaired	16
Water closet seats renewed	14
W.C. flushing cisterns or fall pipes repaired/replaced	39
Dustbins provided or replaced	77
Offensive accumulations/deposits removed	8
Rat infested structures removed/rat-proofed	1
Houses cleansed or disinfected	5
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	9
Animals improperly kept	5

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwelling houses in the district	5884
Number of back-to-back houses included in above	—

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	469
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1661
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	3
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	4

(3) Number of dwellinghouses needing further action :—		
(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation		44
(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3)(a) above), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation		425
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.		
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers		405
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.		
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936 :—		
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs		—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—		
(a) By owners		—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners		—
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—		
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied		13
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
(a) By owners		10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners		—
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation		3
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made		3
(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders		1
(4) Any action under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953? If so, what?		Nil

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.			
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—	
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—	
4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.			
(a)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	23	
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	30	
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	167	
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	33	
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	69	
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	352	
5. New Houses.			
Number of new houses provided during the year :—			
	By Local Authority :—Permanent Type	156	
	Temporary Type	0	
	By Private Enterprise (including 78 C.I.H.A. Houses)	85	
6. Housing Act, 1949.			
Any action in connection with :—			
(a)	Section 4—Advances for purposes of increasing housing accommodation?	Nil	
(b)	Section 20—Grants to persons other than local authorities for improvement of housing accommodation? One ; other applications pending.		

Housing—Slum Clearance.

A preliminary survey of houses was made and a schedule of houses submitted to the Council for consideration for their post-war slum-clearance programme. 360 houses considered to be unfit for habitation and not capable of repair at reasonable expense were included on the first list and 76 on a supplementary list.

Housing—Improvement Grants.

The Council considered preliminary applications for improvement grants in respect of eight houses, seven of which were owner-occupied.

Five applications were agreed to in principle but by the year end only one formal application for a grant had been received.

Housing—Certificates of Disrepair.

Under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, 14 applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair and 14 were issued.

Temporary and Moveable Dwellings.

Two licensed sites were occupied by six moveable dwellings accommodating personnel engaged on local building projects. The licenses of three individual caravans sited in the district were renewed for a further period of one year. Two unlicensed caravans moved from the district after warnings. There have been fewer enquiries than in previous years from local people wishing to occupy caravans as houses, probably due to the improved housing situation but workers who move from place to place frequently appear to be making increased use of trailer-caravans.

During the year good progress was made in clearing unsatisfactory hutments at Red Ash Hill Estate, Parkgate. Eleven huts, including all the remaining Nissen Huts, were removed. At the year end 28 huts were still occupied. The life of all hutments is short and it is anticipated that the hutted camp will go out of existence by the end of 1956.

Water Supply.

Thirteen samples were taken from domestic supply taps at representative points throughout the district for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory. All samples had a nil count per 100 ml. for both probable numbers of coliform bacilli and faecal coli ; these results indicated that the water was of highly satisfactory quality.

Completed sections of a new 15" water main were sterilised under supervision of the Department.

Public Swimming Bath.

Five samples from the swimming bath were taken at monthly intervals for bacteriological examination and in each case the water came up to drinking water standards. The Baths Manager makes routine daily tests to check that the chlorination plant is functioning satisfactorily.

Sanitary Accommodation.

Number of Water-closets	6874
Number of additional W.C.s provided at existing property in 1954	20
Number of W.C.s provided at new houses in 1954	241
Number of Pail closets	12
Number of Privies with open middens	32
Number of Privies with covered middens	14
Number of Privies converted to W.C.s in 1954	0
Percentage of W.C.s	99.16

The conversion scheme prepared for houses at Chapel Walk, Upper Haugh in 1953 did not materialise during the year. This scheme was included in a new trunk sewer plan to facilitate housing development in the Northern part of the District. The major scheme was commenced early in 1955. The New Stubbin Colliery proposals to replace pail closets by water-closets was also outstanding at the year end.

Verminous or Filthy Houses.

Disinfestation was undertaken at eight houses to eradicate bed bugs ; liquid insecticide was used for this purpose. With the co-operation of occupants bugs can be eliminated.

Three informal cleansing notices were served on tenants.

Rodent Control.

The sewers in the district were test-baited to ascertain the degree of rat infestation. A light infestation was found to exist and this was treated by poison bait.

Eighty-six complaints of infestation were received during the year and action was taken to eradicate each infestation. 547 visits and inspections were made in connection with rodent control. Domestic premises are treated without charge and business and industrial premises on repayment.

"Warfarin," a comparatively safe poison to use has replaced the quicker acting and more dangerous poisons for both rat and mice infestations. Comparatively few householders take advantage of the Council's free service for dealing with mice infestations.

Infectious Diseases.

Cases of infectious disease were investigated as required by the Medical Officer of Health. Home disinfection was only carried out after deaths or removal of persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Library books which have been in contact with infectious diseases were fumigated prior to being returned to circulation.

Atmospheric Pollution.

The Sheffield and District Smoke Abatement Committee of which the Council are members dealt with smoke abatement work in the district and all complaints are reported to their officials.

It was necessary to make several adverse reports of excessive black smoke from two of the three local collieries. The National Coal Board have plans for the electrification of both offending collieries and some progress in this respect had been made at the year end. The most serious industrial pollution arose from iron and steel works both in and outside the district and from a chemical works adjacent to the Southern boundary.

The 1954 monthly average figures from the three sets of pollution measurement apparatus were :—

	Rawmarsh Barbers Avenue	Parkgate Aldwarke Road	Parkgate Council Offices
Deposit Gauge—Tons per Square mile	21.71	69.93	—
Lead Peroxide Apparatus—SO ₃ mg/1000 sq. cms./Day ..	2.325	4.511	—
Smoke Filter—mg/100 Cubic Metres Daily Average ..	—	—	32.60

The deposit gauge for Parkgate showed an appreciable reduction on last years figure but the deposit is still very heavy. The Rawmarsh gauge showed an increased deposit of over 3 tons.

Complaints due to excessive dust emission from two tar-slag plants in the District were received from nearby householders. The Companies operating these plants promised to take remedial action but it is doubtful whether the nuisance will be permanently abated without extensive alterations and modernisation of the plant.

The report of the Government Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Hugh Beaver is awaited with interest and it is hoped that it's outcome will result in cleaner air.

Factories.

1. Inspections under the Factories Act, 1937, for purposes of provisions as to Health.

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	5	7	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	51	28	1
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	5	9	—
	—	—	—
	61	44	1
	—	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found :—

	No. of Cases	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :			
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	1	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work)	—	—	—
	1	—	—

One certificate that suitable means of escape in case of fire had been provided at a new factory was issued under Section 34 after an inspection in conjunction with the West Riding County Council Fire Service.

Shops.

Twelve inspections were made under the Shops Act, 1950. Two contraventions were found and both were remedied. Court proceedings were instituted under Section 38 of the Act in a case where a shop was not considered to have suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation. The Magistrates adjourned the hearing to give the defendant an opportunity to apply for a certificate of exemption ; the application was made and the Council decided to issue the necessary certificate.

The Act is mainly administered by the County Council.

Meat and Other Food Inspection.

Following the Government's decision to remove controls from meat supply and slaughtering the Council licensed from the 1st July three of the fourteen slaughter houses which existed prior to the war. All the pre-war slaughterhouses were surveyed but only four were considered fit for re-use without extensive modernisation. The majority of butchers in the district were satisfied with the facilities for the wholesale purchase of meat or for arranging their own killing at the Rotherham Public Abattoir.

The following animals were killed at the three licensed slaughter houses :—

Cattle—81

Sheep—170

Pigs—1679

All carcasses were inspected and the following were found to be unfit and were surrendered and destroyed :—

	Tuberculosis	Conditions other than T.B.	Total Wt.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Cattle	1292	803	2095
Sheep	—	62	62
Pigs	843	447	1290
	<hr/> 2135 <hr/>	<hr/> 1312 <hr/>	<hr/> 3447 <hr/>

The following foodstuffs were inspected at food premises and were found to be unfit.

	Cwts.	qrs.	lb.	ozs.
387 tins	4	2	16	0
Sausage		1	11	12
Bacon and Ham		1	8	12
Cheese		1	13	7
Raisins		1	22	0
Suet				8
Frozen Egg			14	0
	<hr/> 6 <hr/>	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	<hr/> 2 <hr/>	<hr/> 7 <hr/>

Milk.

There are 48 retail milk sellers in the district, 38 of whom sell sterilised milk from shops. By Government Order only designated milk may be sold in the district and all milk sold by retail is bottled each container having an overlapping cap.

One dealer was warned for depositing milk prior to sale on a footpath. Requests were made on several occasions for dealers to remove empty milk bottles deposited in unsuitable places. Empty bottles are not collected as they should be with the result that broken glass is a common place sight on roads.

Seventy-seven inspections were made.

The following licences for designated milks were issued :

	Dealers	Supplementary
Pasteurised Milk	6	4
Sterilised Milk	42	3
Tuberculin Tested Milk	3	3

The following are details of samples taken for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory :—

	No. of Samples	No. Satisfactory
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled) Milk ..	10	10
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk ..	7	7
Pasteurised Milk	16	16
Sterilised Milk	21	21

The County Health Department took the following samples of locally processed milk :—

	No. of Samples	No. Satisfactory
Pasteurised Milk	17	17
Sterilised Milk	19	19
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk ..	2	2

The sampling results are considered very satisfactory as there was not a single failure.

Ice-cream.

Forty-nine premises are registered for the retail sale of ice-cream, there being two new registrations during the year. All retailers sell pre-packed ice-cream only. The only registered producer-retailer in the district did not manufacture ice-cream during the year and it is unlikely that he will resume production. Mobile traders came into the district and with few exceptions sell pre-packed ice-cream.

102 visits were made to ice-cream premises.

No. of Samples	Percentage	Provisional Grade	Remarks
39	72.22	1	Satisfactory
11	20.37	2	Fair
3	5.56	3	Poor
1	1.85	4	Unsatisfactory

Grade 3 and 4 samples are reported to the Health Department of the district in which the ice-cream is produced. One dealer from whom two consecutive unsatisfactory samples were taken changed his supplier.

Most ice-cream dealers sell ice-lollies but only in a few instances do they manufacture their own. Forty-nine samples were taken with the following results :—

41 Water Ice type—39 Satisfactory : 2 Unsatisfactory.

8 “Cream” type—7 Grade 1 : 1 Grade 3.

Other Food Premises.

	No.	Inspections
Bakers and Confectioners ..	10	19
Butchers	26	186
Fried Fish Shops	18	77
Grocers and General Dealers	70	
Sugar Confectioners	27	
Greengrocers	16	
Fishmongers	2	
Tripe Dealers	2	
Pharmacists	5	
Dairies	2	
Aerated Water Manufacturers	2	
Cafes and Canteens	10	
Public Houses and Clubs ..	24	

Re-decoration was secured at one butchers shop and hot water supplies provided at two butchers and two grocers shops. Improvements were made at a fishmongers shop. The removal of a cat and kittens was required from a grocers shop. The sale of foodstuffs from a caravan was discontinued, the occupier opening permanent shop premises.

Work was commenced on new licensed premises to replace an out of date public house and improvements in two of the older premises were pending at the year end.

It was necessary to take formal action following the sale of unfit sausage ; the Council decided to warn the vendor.

New food and drugs legislation is expected to be made and it is hoped to devote more time to the inspection of food premises in future years.

Offensive Trade.

There is one tripe-boiler in the district whose premises are surrounded by houses. The premises are kept in a satisfactory condition. Complaints of smoke from boiler chimneys were dealt with by the Regional Committee's Inspector. Eight inspections were made.

Hairdresser's Premises.

There are 16 premises registered in the district under the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, and these are subject to byelaws made under this Act.

Public Cleansing.

The Department is responsible for the collection and disposal of house and trade refuse, salvage, gully cleansing, sewer flushing and the cleansing of public conveniences.

The refuse collection fleet consists of 3 "Karrier" 10 cubic yard vehicles and 1 "Karrier" 7 cubic yard vehicle which was delivered in October to replace an old vehicle. The foreman's van is in need of renewal. Housing development in the district increases the work of refuse collection and in future larger capacity vehicles may be necessary.

During the year plans for new and well equipped garages at High Street Depot were prepared. Besides being inconveniently situated the Dudley Street Garage is in very bad structural order. It is hoped that the erection of the new garages will be proceeded with expeditiously.

In the latter part of the year difficulties were experienced in maintaining a reasonable frequency of refuse collection due to a combination of circumstances—abnormal sickness of employees, bad weather and shortage of labour. New and suitable labour is hard to obtain and many new comers leave after short service ; fortunately the Department has it's nucleus of older workmen who remain in the Council's employment.

At the year end the Claypit Lane tip was rapidly nearing completion to the intended depth of tipping and little progress had been made towards acquiring another tipping site. The tip caught fire on a number of

occasions and the Fire Service had to be called on. Fire, insect pest and rodent infestations arise from lack of adequate control, and in particular, covering of the tip ; these difficulties could best be met by the use of mechanical equipment which must be considered essential on any new site. A small quantity of refuse was disposed of at Upper Haugh Quarry but little tipping space remained at this site.

Details and costs of refuse collection and disposal :—

No. of motor loads of refuse	.. .. .	4086
Total estimated weight, based on test weighings	.. ..	9377
No. of premises from which collections are made	.. ..	6153
Nett Cost of refuse collection and disposal : Approx.		£10524
Cost per ton :	„	22s. 5¼d.
Cost per premises :	„	30s. 11½d
Cost per 1,000 premises	„	£1547.16.3d.
Cost per 1,000 inhabitants	„	£547.5.10d.

173 more loads of refuse were removed than in 1953. The net cost increased by £1,422 mainly due to higher wages. Salvage income was increased by £74 17s. 10d. The price of waste-paper showed a small increase but is still well below the peak price of 1952.

	T.	C.	Q.	L.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper, Cardboard, etc.	75	2	2	0	499	15	5
Textiles	1	9	2	12	21	19	0
Non-ferrous Metal		3	2	6	13	15	10
	76	15	2	18	£535	10	3

105 visits were made in connection with dilapidated dustbins and 77 new dustbins were provided, 5 statutory notices were served in this connection.

The “S. & D.” Gully Emptier was used for gully emptying, cesspool emptying on repayment, sewer flushing, pumping out flooded cellars and carrying water to tip fires.

The six public conveniences were cleansed daily. Electric lighting was installed at the Aldwarke Road Conveniences and improvements were pending at the High Street conveniences. Three of the urinals require modernisation.

Housing Management.

During the year the Department continued to deal with the following aspects of Council House Management :—housing applications and allocations ; exchanges, tenancy transfers, sub-tenancy applications, tenancy conditions, tenants complaints and welfare matters. The number of Council houses at the year end was 1639 and owing to the increasing volume of work involved the Council decided to form a separate Housing Department in 1955.

The list of applicants was brought up-to-date at the year end and the improvement in the housing position reported last year was continued in 1954. The following table shows details of the figures in the last three years :—

	31.8.52	31.12.53	31.12.54
Tenant Applicants	302	375	317
Sub-tenant Applicants ..	516	317	263
All Applicants	818	692	580

The number of tenant-applicants was reduced by 58 and sub-tenant applicants by 54. Many of the tenant applicants reside in sub-standard houses which are likely to be subject to slum-clearance action.

At the year end 23 houses were known to be overcrowded and these were occupied by 30 families. These figures show a considerable reduction on last years figure the Council's re-housing policy having abated many cases. Overcrowding is no longer a major problem in the district.

The Council allocated houses according to need 50% to applicants without their own homes based on date of marriage, and 50% on overcrowding and other grounds of need. Urgent medical cases were dealt with on the Medical Officer of Health's recommendations and emergency cases according to the circumstances.

Twenty-seven exchanges of tenancy involving 56 tenants were sanctioned. The Council particularly encourage these exchanges in which overcrowding or under-occupation problems are overcome and an exchange list is kept to help tenants desiring more suitable accommodation. Many private landlords do not permit their tenants to exchange with Council house tenants.

The following figures give details of allocations and transfers during the year :—

No. of Post-War Houses Let	141
No. of Post-War Houses Re-let	9
No. of Pre-War Houses Re-let	24
No. of Aged Persons Bungalows Re-let	4
No. of Tenancies transferred following decease of tenants or for other reasons	26
No. of Tenants transferred to Other Houses to release required accommodation	16

